

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 2854 PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, Item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/US 03/ 22900	International filing date (day/month/year) 23/07/2003	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 25/07/2002
Applicant SHERWOOD SERVICES AG		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☒ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

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☐ None of the figures.

Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of Item 5 of the first sheet)

An electrosurgical pencil (100) configured and adapted to support an electrocautery blade (116). A strain gauge (130) is affixed to the proximal, end of the electrocautery blade and measures the displacement of the blade as a result of resistance and drag acting on the blade. The electrosurgical pencil also includes a meter electrically connected to the strain gauge for monitoring either a change in voltage, a change in electrical current or a change in optical wavelength. The amount of blade displacement as measured by the strain gauge is available for display to the surgeon and/or as sensory input for a control circuit in the electrosurgical generator (118) that modulates the generator output waveform. The electrosurgical pencil further includes a control circuit electrically coupled between the electrocautery blade and the electrosurgical generator. The control circuit is configured and adapted to control power supplied to electrocautery blade based on the displacement measured by the strain gauge.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

National Application No

US 03/22900

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61B18/12

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EP0-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 893 848 A (NEGUS CHARLES CHRISTOPHER ET AL) 13 April 1999 (1999-04-13) column 2, line 31-36,46-57 column 5, line 32-64; figure 5 ---	1,4,5, 7-14
Y	WO 96 39086 A (VALLEYLAB INC) 12 December 1996 (1996-12-12) page 7, line 18-23 page 12, line 14-19; figure 1 ---	1-17
Y	US 6 361 532 B1 (BUREK PAUL P) 26 March 2002 (2002-03-26) column 3, line 14-44; figures 1,2,6 ---	1-17
E	US 2003/199869 A1 (JOHNSON KRISTIN D ET AL) 23 October 2003 (2003-10-23) paragraphs '0016!, '0084! -----	10

☐

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- * & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

20 November 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

02/12/2003

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 03/22900

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5893848	A	13-04-1999	EP 0949884 A1	20-10-1999
			JP 2000504971 T	25-04-2000
			WO 9817185 A1	30-04-1998
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			WO 9639086 A1	12-12-1996
US 6361532	B1	26-03-2002	WO 9740761 A1	06-11-1997
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			US 6511480 B1	28-01-2003
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			WO 02080797 A1	17-10-2002
			US 2003109875 A1	12-06-2003
			AU 756626 B2	16-01-2003
			AU 1225700 A	15-05-2000
			CA 2347014 A1	04-05-2000
			EP 1123058 A1	16-08-2001
			JP 2002528166 T	03-09-2002
			WO 0024330 A1	04-05-2000